

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3866

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0995

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI AO

SUBJECT: CHIPENDA DISCUSSES FNLA STRATEGY

1. I TALKED WITH DANIEL CHIPENDA IN CARMONA ON JULY 25 AND 26 ABOUT FNLA STRATEGY. ACCORDING TO CHIPENDA, WHO IS COORDINATING MILITARY AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES IN WHAT HAS BECOME THE EASTERN FRONT, THE FNLA WILL TRY AND MOVE FORWARD ON A BROAD FRONT AND ENCIRCLE MPLA. CHIPENDA'S IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE IS TO CLEAR AND SECURE THE ROAD BETWEEN MPALANG AND DALATANDO AND THEN TO MOVE WEST THROUGH DONDO ALONG THE HIGHWAY TO LUANDA. HE CLAIMED THAT FNLA FORCES WOULD ALSO STRIKE ALONG A "BROAD FRONT", BUT DECLINED TO GIVE SPECIFICS. HE SAID THAT ON THE MORNING OF THE 26TH FNLA FORCES AT LUCALA BEGAN A MAJOR THRUST TOWARD DALATONDO.

2. THE OVERALL AIM OF THE FNLA, SAID CHIPENDA IS TO FORCE MPLA TO SUBMIT, AFTER WHICH DISCUSSIONS CAN BEGIN ON A POLITICAL SOLUTION. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL FNLA ACCEPT THE PARTITION  
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OF ANGOLA, OR THE ABSENCE OF FNLA FROM LUANDA.

3. THE SITUATION IN CARMONA IS CRITICAL. THE MPLA ROAD BLOCKADE HAS PARALYZED THE CITY AND ALL SUPPLIES MUST COME FROM ZAIRE, AS THE REGION PRODUCES LITTLE FOOD AND NO MANUFACTURES. TRUCKS MOVE AT NIGHT AND THE NIGHT I WAS THERE A NUMBER OF VEHICLES MOVED THROUGH CARMONA HEADING SOUTH. THE CITY IS OUT OF GASOLINE AND DIESEL AND OTHER SMALL AMOUNTS ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE POPULACE FROM THE FUEL TRUCKS SUPPLYING FNLA FORCES. FNLA GARRISONS ARE LIGHTLY MANNED, AS MOST TROOPS HAVE MOVED SOUTH TO TAKE UP BATTLE POSITIONS, EITHER AT LUCALA OR ALONG THE CARMONA/CAXITO ROAD.

4. BELOW THE DANGE RIVER MPLA HAS OUT THE ROAD IN SEVERAL PLACES AND FNLA STRATEGY APPEARS TO BE TO DRIVE THE ENEMY BACK BEYOND THE BRIDGE OVER THE DANGE A FEW KILOMETERS NORTH OF QUIBAXE. A MAJOR CONCENTRATION OF MPLA FORCES LIES EAST OF QUIBAXE AT PIRI.

5. ON MY RETURN TO LUANDA THE AFTERNOON OF THE 26TH I OVERFLEW CACUACO AND SAW NO ACTION OR MOVEMENTS OF ANY KIND. A FIRE WAS BURNING AT THE SECIL CEMENT FACTORY, BEYOND THE REFINERY, BUT IT DID NOT APPEAR TO BE A MAJOR INSTALLATION. AS OF 2000 HOURS LOCAL TIME JULY 26 THE FIRE IN THE SHELL TANK HAD DIED DOWN, BUT WE RECEIVED REPORTS OF HEAVY FIRING BY FNLA TROOPS IN THE FORTRESS. ANOTHER REPORT INDICATES A POSSIBLE IN CACUACO SHORTLY AFTER 2000 HOURS.

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